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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,216	12/15/2003	Charles E. Baumgartner	132131	7691
7590	08/12/2005			EXAMINER BUDD, MARK OSBORNE
Dennis M. Flaherty Ostrager Chong & Flaherty LLP 30th Floor 825 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022-7519			ART UNIT 2834	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 08/12/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

RECEIVED  
OIPE/IAP  
SEP 02 2005

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/737,216	BAUMGARTNER ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Mark Budd	2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.                                   |

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim1-12 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.These claims are vague and indefinite in that the average diameter is related to the smallest element with no further explanation as to what part (e.g. dimension ) of the element, or how it is related to the element. Is it, for example related to the smallest of dimention of the element as stated in applicants claimed 13??

Cclaims 1-29 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable overBaumoel in view of Davidsen for the specific reasons noted in the previous office action (4-21-05)).

Applicant argues that he particle sizes selected b Baumoel are not specifically related to the dimensions of the piezoelectric elephant. However, according to applicants claims, the smallest dimension for Baumoels would have to be less than 100  $\mu$  in order to not meet the terms of the claim. That is to say,Baumoel cannot have any convention greater than 100  $\mu$  without meeting the claimed criteria. Although, drawings are not necessarily to scale, by inspection (noting that the metalparticles are described as a powder), and taking into consideration the dimensions necessary for typical ultrasonic flowmeter, the smallest dimention of Boemals piezoelectric element would be

considerably larger than 100 microns. Thus, it is felt that the position of Baumoel would result in a back that with me and the criteria set forth in applicants claims.

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Budd whose telephone number is 571-272-2019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg, can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.  
Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.  
For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Mark Budd  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2834

10/737216

Form PTO-1449  
(Modified)

Attorney Docket: 132131

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Charles E. Baumgartner et al. : Group Art Unit:

Serial No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner:

Filed: Concurrently

Title: ACOUSTIC BACKING MATERIAL FOR SMALL-ELEMENT ULTRASOUND TRANSDUCER ARRAYS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
MP	A 6,541,896	4/1/03	Piel, Jr. et al.	310	334	

**FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	PUB. NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
MP	B 02/40184 A2	5/23/02	WIPO		—		

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

(Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)


Examiner:

Date Considered:

8-16-05

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in compliance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in compliance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

